

PARAGRAPH ADDED TO SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION

United States patent 5,617,492 describes an optical arrangement for launching a number of light beams into an optical fiber with each light beam being generated by a dedicated light source. The light sources are implemented in the form of semiconductor lasers. A lens is used to focus the individual light beams onto the optical fiber. Similar devices are described in United States patent 4,826,269 and in United States patent application publication 2002/0090172.